

REMARKS

The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 1, 13, 26 are currently being amended.

Claim 27 is cancelled.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-26, and 28-31 (30 claims) are now pending in this application.

On page 2, paragraph 1 of the office action, the Examiner objected to claims 1-22 because of an informality. In response, the Applicants have amended claims 1 and 13 in a manner that the Applicants believe overcomes the ambiguity. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection of claims 1-22.

On page 2, paragraph 3 of the office action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Buchanan (USPN: 6,459,570).

Claim 1 is in independent form. Independent claim 1 (as amended) now recites “wherein, with the basepan coupled to the panel board, the panel board prevents deflection of the sidewall of the basepan”.

A basepan assembly in which a second busbar is mounted on a side portion of the bus bar proximate the sidewall and aligned 90° from the first busbar with the basepan coupled to the panel board, the panel board prevents deflection of the sidewall of the basepan as required by independent claim 1 (as amended) is not disclosed, taught or suggested by Buchanan. Support for the amendment can be found in paragraph 0018 and Figs. 2 and 3 of the specification as originally filed.

Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and allowance of independent claim 1 (as amended) and dependent claims 2-12 as they depend from independent claim 1.

Claim 13 is in independent form. Independent claim 13 (as amended) now recites “wherein the enclosure prevents the deflection of the sidewall of the basepan mounted in the enclosure”.

A load center comprising an enclosure in which a basepan assembly is mounted with the second busbar mounted on the side portion of the busbar proximate the sidewall of the basepan assembly wherein the enclosure prevents the deflection of the sidewall of the basepan mounted in the enclosure is not disclosed, taught or suggested by Buchanan. Support for this amendment can be found in paragraph 0018 and Figs. 2 and 3 of the specification as originally filed.

Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and allowance of independent claim 13 (as amended) and dependent claims 14-25 as they depend from independent claim 13.

On pages 4 and 5, paragraph 5 of the office action, the Examiner has rejected claims 2, 7, 8, 11, 14, 19, 20, 23, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Buchanan (USPN: 6,459,570).

Dependent claims 2, 7, 8 and 11 depend from independent claim 1 (as amended). Dependent claims 14, 19, 20, 23 and 25 depend from independent claim 13 (as amended). As previously described, the Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 13 to recite a combination of subject matter that the Applicants believe to be allowable. The Applicants, with respect to Buchanan, are applicable here also.

Accordingly, the Applicants submit that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) have been overcome and dependent claims 2, 7, 8, 11, 14, 19, 20, 23 and 25 as they depend from either independent claim 1 (as amended) or independent claim 13 (as amended) are now allowable. See 35 U.S.C. § 112, paragraph 4. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the cited claims.

On pages 5 and 6, paragraph 6 of the office action, the Examiner has rejected claims 5 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Buchanan (USPN: 6,459,570) as applied to the claims above and in view of Barner (USPN: 4,740,865).

Dependent claim 5 depends from independent claim 1 (as amended). Dependent claim 17, depends from independent claim 13 (as amended). As previously discussed, the Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 13 to recite a combination of subject matter the Applicants believe to be allowable. The Applicants' comments with respect to Buchanan are applicable here also.

Accordingly, the Applicants submit that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) have been overcome and dependent claim 5 as it depends from independent claim 1 (as amended) and dependent claim 17 as it depends from independent claim 13 (as amended) are now allowable. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of dependent claims 5 and 17.

On page 6, paragraph 7 of the office action, the Examiner has rejected claims 9, 10, 21 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Buchanan (USPN: 6,459,570) as applied to the claims above and in view of M'Sadoques, et al (USPN: 4,546,200).

Dependent claims 9 and 10 depend from independent claim 1 (as amended). Dependent claims 21 and 22 depend from independent claim 13 (as amended). As previously described, the Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 13 to recite a combination of subject matter the Applicants believe to be allowable. The Applicants' comments with regard to Buchanan are applicable here also.

Accordingly, the Applicants submit that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) have been overcome and dependent claims 9 and 10 as they depend from independent claim 1 (as amended) and dependent claims 21 and 22 as they depend from independent claim 13 (as amended), are now allowable. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of dependent claims 9, 10, 21 and 22.

On page 7, paragraph 8 of the office action, the Examiner has rejected claims 26-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Buchanan (USPN: 6,459,570) in view of Hancock, et al (USPN: 4,916,574).

Claim 26 is in independent form. Independent claim 26 (as amended) now recites a method for mounting a busbar in a basepan which includes "deflecting the sidewall (of the basepan) during insulation of the busbar" and installing the basepan in the enclosure, wherein the enclosure prevents deflection of the sidewall of the installed basepan. Support for the amendment can be found in paragraph 0018 and Figs. 2 and 3 of the specification as originally filed and the Applicants have included the limitation of claim 27 in independent claim 26 and has cancelled dependent claim 27.

The combination of prior art as suggested by the Examiner does not disclose, teach or suggest what is required by independent claim 26 (as amended). Specifically, Hancock does not suggest or teach mounting of a busbar on its bottom edge and coupling the top edge of the busbar with the fastener to the sidewall of the basepan. The groove, as characterized by the Examiner in Hancock, is described by Hancock is a channel that receives the wide side of a flat busbar and not a bottom edge of the busbar as described and claimed in the present application. See Fig. 1 of Hancock and col. 2, ll. 25-30. The Applicants' comments with regard to Buchanan are applicable here also. Further, neither Hancock nor Buchanan teach or

suggest that the enclosure in which the basepan is mounted prevents deflection of the sidewall of the installed basepan. The Applicants submit that one ordinarily skilled in the art would not be compelled to combine Hancock with Buchanan to obtain that which is disclosed and claimed in the present application.

Accordingly, the Applicants submit that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) have been overcome and independent claim 26 (as amended) and dependent claims 28-31 as they depend from independent claim 26 (as amended) are now allowable. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of claims 26 and 28-31.

On page 8, paragraph 9 of the office action, the Examiner has rejected claim 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Buchanan (USPN: 6,459,570) in view of Hancock, et al (USPN: 4,916,574) as applied to claim 26 above and in further view of M'Sadoques, et al (USPN: 4,646,200).

Dependent claim 31 depends from independent claim 26 (as amended). As previously described, the Applicants have amended independent claim 26 to recite a combination of subject matter the Applicants believe to be allowable. Further, the Applicants' comments with respect to Buchanan and Hancock above are applicable here.

Accordingly, the Applicants submit that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) has been overcome and dependent claim 31 as it depends from independent claim 26 (as amended) is allowable. See 35 U.S.C. § 112, paragraph 4. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of dependent claim 31.

Independent claims 1, 13 and 26 have been amended, and claim 27 has been cancelled. The Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests allowance of claims 1-26, and 28-31.

The Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

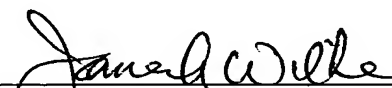
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by the credit card payment form being unsigned, providing incorrect information resulting in a rejected credit card transaction, or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, the Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and authorize payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 06-16-06

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